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| Notice of Allowability | Application No. | Applicant(s) | |
| | 09/713,888 | DORE ET AL. | |
| | Examiner | Art Unit | |
| | Anh-Vu H Ly | 2667 | |

-- **The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address--**
 All claims being allowable, PROSECUTION ON THE MERITS IS (OR REMAINS) CLOSED in this application. If not included herewith (or previously mailed), a Notice of Allowance (PTOL-85) or other appropriate communication will be mailed in due course. **THIS NOTICE OF ALLOWABILITY IS NOT A GRANT OF PATENT RIGHTS.** This application is subject to withdrawal from issue at the initiative of the Office or upon petition by the applicant. See 37 CFR 1.313 and MPEP 1308.

1. ☒ This communication is responsive to amendment filed July 19, 2004.
2. ☒ The allowed claim(s) is/are 1-10, 12-14, 16-34, 36-39, and 41-46 renumbered as 1-42.
3. ☒ The drawings filed on 16 November 2000 are accepted by the Examiner.
4. ☐ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).
 - a) ☐ All b) ☐ Some* c) ☐ None of the:
 1. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
 2. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. _____.
 3. ☐ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this national stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).

* Certified copies not received: _____.

Applicant has THREE MONTHS FROM THE "MAILING DATE" of this communication to file a reply complying with the requirements noted below. Failure to timely comply will result in ABANDONMENT of this application.
THIS THREE-MONTH PERIOD IS NOT EXTENDABLE.

5. ☐ A SUBSTITUTE OATH OR DECLARATION must be submitted. Note the attached EXAMINER'S AMENDMENT or NOTICE OF INFORMAL PATENT APPLICATION (PTO-152) which gives reason(s) why the oath or declaration is deficient.
 6. ☐ CORRECTED DRAWINGS (as "replacement sheets") must be submitted.
 - (a) ☐ including changes required by the Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948) attached
 - 1) ☐ hereto or 2) ☐ to Paper No./Mail Date _____.
 - (b) ☐ including changes required by the attached Examiner's Amendment / Comment or in the Office action of Paper No./Mail Date _____.
- Identifying indicia such as the application number (see 37 CFR 1.84(c)) should be written on the drawings in the front (not the back) of each sheet. Replacement sheet(s) should be labeled as such in the header according to 37 CFR 1.121(d).
7. ☐ DEPOSIT OF and/or INFORMATION about the deposit of BIOLOGICAL MATERIAL must be submitted. Note the attached Examiner's comment regarding REQUIREMENT FOR THE DEPOSIT OF BIOLOGICAL MATERIAL.

Attachment(s)

- | | |
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| <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Notice of References Cited (PTO-892) 2. <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948) 3. <input type="checkbox"/> Information Disclosure Statements (PTO-1449 or PTO/SB/08), Paper No./Mail Date _____ 4. <input type="checkbox"/> Examiner's Comment Regarding Requirement for Deposit of Biological Material | <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 5. <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of Informal Patent Application (PTO-152) 6. <input type="checkbox"/> Interview Summary (PTO-413), Paper No./Mail Date _____ 7. <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Examiner's Amendment/Comment 8. <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Examiner's Statement of Reasons for Allowance 9. <input type="checkbox"/> Other _____ |
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DETAILED ACTION

EXAMINER'S AMENDMENT

1. An examiner's amendment to the record appears below. Should the changes and/or additions be unacceptable to applicant, an amendment may be filed as provided by 37 CFR 1.312. To ensure consideration of such an amendment, it MUST be submitted no later than the payment of the issue fee.

Authorization for this examiner's amendment was given in a telephone interview with Dan C. Hu on December 03, 2004.

The application has been amended as follows:

In The Claims

1. (Currently Amended) A method, comprising:
receiving a call request from a first media gateway controller [to] at a second media gateway controller over a network;
determining if at least one digit is required to establish a call session;
requesting [information] the at least one digit from the first media gateway controller in response to determining that the at least one digit is required; and
receiving the [information] at least one digit from the first media gateway controller before establishing a bearer path over the network.
7. (Currently Amended) The method of claim 6, wherein requesting the [information] at least one digit comprises requesting the [information] at least one digit in a Session Initiation Protocol message.

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8. (Currently Amended) The method of claim 7, wherein requesting the [information] at least one digit comprises providing a digit map within the Session Initiation Protocol message.

9. (Currently Amended) The method of claim 1, wherein requesting the [information] at least one digit comprises requesting digits to establish a call session, and wherein receiving the [information] at least one digit comprises receiving the requested digits before establishing the bearer path over the network in response to the call request.

10. (Currently Amended) The method of claim 1, further including terminating the call in response to receiving the [information] at least one digit.

11. (Cancelled)

12. (Currently Amended) An apparatus, comprising:

a first interface coupled to a packet-based network; and

a controller communicatively coupled to the first interface, the controller to:

receive a call request from a media gateway controller over the packet-based network;

determine if at least one digit is required to establish a call session;

request the at least one digit from the media gateway controller; and

receive the at least one digit from the media gateway controller over the packet-based network ~~from the media gateway controller~~ in response to determining that the at least one digit is required; and

wherein the at least one digit is received before establishing a bearer path over the network.

15. (Cancelled)

Claim 16, in line 1, replace “15” with - -13- -.

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Claim 17, in line 1, replace “15” with - -13- -.

Claim 19, in line 2, replace “receiving” with - -receive- -.

20. (Currently Amended) An apparatus, comprising:

- a first interface to couple to a first network;
- a second interface to couple to a packet-based network; and
- a controller communicatively coupled to the first and second interfaces, the controller to:
 - receive a call request over the first network from a terminal;
 - transmit the call request over the packet-based network to a media gateway controller;
 - prior to a call session being established in response to the call request, receive a request to collect digits from the media gateway controller over the packet-based network;
 - collect digits from the terminal; and
 - transmit the collected digits to the media gateway controller before establishment of a bearer path over the packet based network.

29. (Currently Amended) An article comprising at least one machine-readable storage medium containing instructions that when executed cause a processor to:

- receive a request to establish a call session over a packet-based network from a media gateway controller;
- determine if at least one digit is required to establish the call session;
- request [information] the at least one digit from the media gateway controller in response to determining that the at least one digit is required; and
- receive the [information] at least one digit from the media gateway controller before establishing a bearer path over the packet-based network.

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Claim 32, in line 2, replace “information” with - -at least one digit - -.

Claim 33, in line 2, replace “information” with - -at least one digit - -.

Claim 34, in line 3, replace “information” with - -at least one digit - -.

35. (Cancelled)

Claim 36, in line 3, replace “voice” with - -bearer- -.

37. (Currently Amended) ~~A data signal embodied in a carrier wave~~ An article comprising at

least one storage medium comprising instructions that when executed cause a processor to:

receive a call request from a media gateway controller over a packet-based network;

[and]

determine if at least one digit is required to establish a call session;

request the at least one digit from the media gateway controller in response to

determining the at least one digit is required;

receive the at least one digit in one of a BICC and a Session Initiation Protocol message from the media gateway controller before establishing a bearer path over the packet-based network in response to the call request.

Claim 38, in lines 3-4, replace “information” with - -at least one digit - -.

Claim 39, in line 2, replace both “information” with - -at least one digit - -.

40. (Cancelled)

Claim 41, in line 1, replace “40” with - -12.

Claim 43, in line 3, replace “information” with - -at least one digit - -.

Claim 44, in line 1, replace “data signal” with - -article- -.

Claim 45, in lines 2 and 3, replace “information” with - -at least one digit - -.

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Claim 46, in line 2, replace "information" with - -at least one digit - -.

Allowable Subject Matter

2. Claims 1-10, 12-14, 16-34, 36-39, and 41-46 are allowed.

The following is an examiner's statement of reasons for allowance:

The prior art does not teach or fairly suggest determining if at least one digit is required to establish a call session, after receiving a call request over a network from a media gateway controller, requesting and receiving the at least one digit from the media gateway controller over the network before establishing a bearer path over the network, as specified in independent claims 1, 12, 20, 29, and 37.

Any comments considered necessary by applicant must be submitted no later than the payment of the issue fee and, to avoid processing delays, should preferably accompany the issue fee. Such submissions should be clearly labeled "Comments on Statement of Reasons for Allowance."

Conclusion

3. The prior art made of record and not relied upon is considered pertinent to applicant's disclosure.

Sayko (US Patent No. 6,418,210 B1) discloses method and apparatus for providing information between a calling network and a called network.

Vuong (US Patent No. 6,765,912 B1) discloses network resource usage in call sessions.

Kia et al (US Patent No. 6,404,870 B1) discloses method and apparatus for authorization based phone calls in packet switched networks.


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4. Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Anh-Vu H Ly whose telephone number is 571-272-3175. The examiner can normally be reached on Monday-Friday 7:00am - 4:00pm.

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Chi Pham can be reached on 571-272-3179. The fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is 703-872-9306.

Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for published applications may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR. Status information for unpublished applications is available through Private PAIR only. For more information about the PAIR system, see <http://pair-direct.uspto.gov>. Should you have questions on access to the Private PAIR system, contact the Electronic Business Center (EBC) at 866-217-9197 (toll-free).

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12/13/07